कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोम पाल): (क) से (ग) गोपशु के संरक्षण और परिरक्षण का मामला संविधान की सातवीं अनुसूची में राज्य की सूची में है। अधिकांश राज्यों ने गाय और उसकी संतति के वध पर प्रतिबंध अथवा रोक लगाने के लिए कानून बनाए हैं।

(घ) गोमांस के निर्यात पर प्रतिबंध है। इसलिए गोमांस के निर्यात से विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित करने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Foodgrain Production

314. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rates achieved in the production of foodgrain during last ten years;

(b) whether these growth rates were below the target fixed for production of foodgrains during these years;

(c) what are the reasons for low growth rates in foodgrains productions;

(d) how this problem has been addressed in the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(e) what special measures have been taken with special reference to the North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The targetted and actual production as well as their annual growth rates during last ten years are given in the enclosed Statement. (*see* below).

(c) and (d) The production of foodrain is subject to influence of a number of biotic, abotic and other environmental factors including adoption of crop production technologies by farmers. Food crops are grown under a diverse agro-climatic conditions which lead to fluctuations in production and productivity. The national agenda for governace envisages improving rainfed farming, improvement of degraded land, development of minor irrigation sources, improvement of drainage together with development of infrastructure, increased flow of credit by strengthening cooperative institutions and adequate marketing support.

(e) The special measures taken in North-Eastern region include undertaking of various major and medium irrigation projects, a number of minor irrigation schemes to exploit ground water, river lifts and small diversions. Short-term measures for flood control are being implemented in Assam through embarkment of Brahamaputra. Besides, a number of ongoing multi-purpose schemes/minor irrigation schemes are being implemented in Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura.

Statement

Targets and Achievements in Production during 1987-88 to 1997-98

Year	Foodgrains production (Million Tonnes)		Growth Rates (Percentage)	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1987-88	160.00	140.35	—	—
1988-89	166.57	169.92	4.11	21.07
1989-90	175.00	171.04	5.06	0.66
1990-91	176.50	176.39	0.86	3.13

Year	Foodgrains production (Million Tonnes)		Growth Rates (Percentage)	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1991-92	182.50	168.38	3.40	+4.54
1992-93	183.00	179.48	0.27	6.59
1993-94	188.00	184.26	2.73	2.66
1994-95	189.00	191.50	0.53	3.93
1995-96	192.00	180.42	1.59	+5.79
1996-97	193.50	199.44	0.78	10.54
1997-98	200.00	192.43	3.36	+3.51
Average Annual Gr. Rate (1987-88 to 1997-98)			2.27	3.47

Production and Storage of Wheat

315. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are expecting a bumper wheat harvest of 67 million tonnes this summer as against 63.5 million tonnes produced during the last year; and

(b) if so, whether Government plan to store the excess wheat crop so as to utilise it for healthy consumption in case of shortages in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) According to advance estimates, the production of wheat during 1998-99 is likely to be 69.13 million tonnes as against the production of 65.90 million tonnes during last year.

(b) The Government has got a system of creating buffer stock through Food Corporation of India and other agencies. Wheat is procured on its harvest at the minimum support prices for providing stable food security environment in future.

Production and Export of Mushrooms

316. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to increase the production and export of mushrooms;

(b) if so, the States where mushrooms are being grown;

(c) the incentives granted by the Central Government to the States to increase areas under mushroom cultivation in view of its tremendous export potentiality;

(d) the projection made for the purpose for Ninth Plan; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The Government of India have initiated various measures to increase the production and export of mushroom in the country. Even though mushroom is grown all over country, it is grown extensively in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and North Eastern states. Production of mushroom has increased from 25,000 tonnes in 1992-93 to 40,000 tonnes in 1996-97 and exports have registered an increase from Rs. 2066 lakhs to Rs. 5128 lakhs during this period.